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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,542	02/27/2002	Kenichi Munemoto	1035-367	1474

7590 09/28/2006

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EXAMINER

HARTMAN JR, RONALD D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2121

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/069,542	Applicant(s) MUNEMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner Ronald D. Hartman Jr.	Art Unit 2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/10/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,9,17,19,21,27,29,31,37-42,44,47,48,51,54,55 and 58-90 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1,2,5,9,17,19,21,27,29,31 and 58-90 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 37-42,44,47-48, 51 and 54-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Japan on 8/31/1999. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 11-246417 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 37-42, 44, 47-48, 51 and 54-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claims 37, 44 and 51, the examiner is confused as to what is meant by the first editing means, the second editing means and the data generating means. The applicant is kindly asked to specifically point to the pertinent portions of the specification which provide support for these features and or provide adequate descriptions of what these features are meant to convey. Simply put, based on the specification, the examiner is unsure as to what the first editing means, the second editing means and the data generating means actually are. Furthermore, the examiner is unsure as to what is meant by "a display content program for setting a content of display ..." and "a control procedure program for setting a procedure of control..." Furthermore, the examiner would like clarification as to what is meant by "inherent data" and its relationship to the display content program, the data generating means, the screen data and the control program. The applicant is also kindly asked to explain what is meant by "control data, which is inclusive of...", in particular, what is meant by the use of the word "inclusive". This term appears several times in claim 37 and the examiner is confused what this term is attempting to convey.

Claim 38, "the variable number names" and "the variable number data" lacks proper antecedent basis. Also, the applicant is kindly asked to define what is meant by "primary keys" and "foreign keys". Further, claim 38 is confusingly written since it appears to run on and on and the examiner really has no idea what it is actually trying to convey.

Claim 39, "the variable number names" lacks proper antecedent basis. Also, the examiner kindly asks the applicant to explain what is meant by certain terminology, specifically what is meant by root segment and subordinate segment?

Claim 40, "the variable number names" and "the addresses of the respective control-object apparatuses..." lacks proper antecedent basis. In line 3, what is meant by "in each of the objects"? Which objects are being referred to? The encapsulated objects of line 1 or the control-object apparatuses of line 3?

The examiner has tried to interpret the claims as best understood, but in light of the numerous questions and unclear portions of the claims, a proper search of the prior art was not possible at this time since the examiner will not speculate as to the intended meanings of the claims.

Further, if at all possible, the applicant is kindly asked to submit an amended version of the specification, in its entirety. Upon reviewing the file of the instant application, it is noted that numerous amendments were made the specification of the corresponding 371 and this causes a great deal of confusion when trying to review the specification. Submitting a fresh clean version of the specification would be very helpful to the examiner.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald D. Hartman Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3684. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 11:00 - 8:30 pm, EST.

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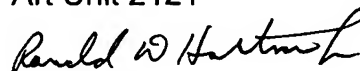
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on (571) 272-3687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ronald D Hartman Jr.

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2121



September 20, 2006

RDH

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